Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

Claims 10-16 (cancel)

Claim 17 (previously presented):   An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

receive at least one music file and a transfer count associated with the music file from another device, wherein the transfer count is indicative of the number of times the music file may be transferred to one or more devices;

store at least one of the music file and the associated transfer count;

allow the music file to be transferred to the one or more devices based on the transfer count;

reduce the transfer count by one in response to each successful transfer of the music file to the one or more devices; and

transmit a preselected transfer count for the music file transferred to the one or more devices, wherein the preselected transfer count indicates the number of times the file may be transferred by the one or more devices.

Claims 18-20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (previously presented):   The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to transfer the preselected transfer count indicating that no further transfers by the one or more devices are allowed.

Claim 22 (original):   The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to receive the transfer count embedded in the music file.

Claims 23-25 (cancel)

Claims 26-30 (canceled)

2

Claim 31 (previously presented):   A method comprising:

receiving at a portable device at least one media file and a transfer count associated with the media file from another device, wherein the transfer count is indicative of the number of times the media file may be transferred to one or more devices from the portable device;

storing at least one of the media file and the associated transfer count on the portable device;

allowing the media file to be transferred to the one or more devices based on the transfer count;

reducing the transfer count by one in response to each successful transfer of the media file to the one or more devices; and

transmitting a preselected transfer count for the media file transferred to the one or more devices, wherein the preselected transfer count indicates the number of times the media file may be transferred by the one or more devices.

Claim 32 (previously presented):   The method of claim 31, further comprising transferring the preselected transfer count indicating that no further transfers by the one or more devices are allowed.

Claim 33 (previously presented):   The method of claim 31, further comprising receiving the transfer count embedded in the media file.

Claim 34 (previously presented):   The method of claim 31, wherein the media file comprises a music file.

Claim 35 (previously presented):   The method of claim 31, wherein allowing the media file to be transferred comprises wirelessly transmitting the media file from the portable device to the one or more devices.

Claim 36 (previously presented):   An apparatus comprising:

an interface to communicate with a remote device; and

a controller communicatively coupled to the interface, the controller to:

3

receive at least one media file and a transfer count associated therewith from the remote device, wherein the transfer count is indicative of the number of times the media file may be transferred to one or more devices;

store at least one of the media file and the associated transfer count;

allow the media file to be transferred to the one or more devices based on the transfer count;

reduce the transfer count by one in response to each successful transfer of the media file to the one or more devices; and

transmit a preselected transfer count for the media file transferred to the one or more devices, wherein the preselected transfer count indicates the number of times the media file may be transferred by the one or more devices.

Claim 37 (previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the controller is to transfer the preselected transfer count indicating that no further transfers by the one or more devices are allowed.

Claim [[37]] 38 (previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the controller is to receive the transfer count embedded in the media file.

Claim [[38]] 39 (previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the apparatus comprises a portable music player.

Claim [[39]] 40 (previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the remote device comprises a portable media player.

Claim [[40]] 41 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim [[38]] 39, further comprising a display to display an identification of media files on the portable music player.

Claim [[41]] 42 (previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising a removable media interface to receive a removable storage medium.

Claim [[42]] 43 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim [[41]] 42, wherein the controller is to reduce the transfer count if the media file is transferred to the removable storage medium.

4